

same opportunities that urban schools offer. He encourages students to be involved with their school by sponsoring the student-run organization that addresses concerns and suggestions for improving the school called the student senate. Henry pushes his students to work hard by organizing a literacy tour in Great Britain for his advanced placement students over Spring Break as a reward.

Mr. Speaker, Henry McIntosh is a wonderful ambassador for education who dedicates his life to teaching the next generation of leaders in his Walsenburg, Colorado community. Henry has taken the noble and challenging occupation of teaching to a new level of excellence. His compassionate and selfless service to Walsenburg and the Colorado community certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress. Congratulations on your award Henry, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

HONORING GWEN ESTES,
EDUCATOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gwen Estes, a recent recipient of the prestigious Gandhi, King, Ikeda Award. The international award, sponsored by a number of peace groups and Morehouse College in Atlanta, was presented to Ms. Estes for her commitment to promoting peace, unity and non-violence.

Gwen Estes is a former parole officer. The job never seemed quite right to Ms. Estes as she has always been about building for the future. Years of watching guards lead shackled inmates into the great abyss of the prison system ran counter to values passed along by Ms. Estes' mother, who spent years teaching school.

Seeking a career change, Gwen Estes followed in the family footsteps and choose teaching. However, she didn't pursue a mainstream teaching job. She opted for Hayward Community School, a last chance outpost for at-risk students who have been expelled for offenses ranging from fighting to selling drugs.

Working tirelessly with students who needed more help than their regular teachers could give, Ms. Estes is saving the lives of troubled teens starving for positive attention, respect and caring.

One need only look into the faces transfixed before her in her portable classroom to better understand why she received the prestigious peace award. Her classroom radiates with trust and compassion and Estes shares a connection with students who have felt alienated and alone in other settings.

Now unlike her years as a parole officer, when her reports could lead to long sentences foreshadowing destroyed lives, Gwen Estes is giving out hope in exceptionally large doses at Hayward Community School.

Ms. Estes is also President of the New Haven Board of Education, another factor that has contributed to success with her students. The confluence of her experiences as a school board member and parole officer gives her the kind of credibility many of her peers lack when working with at-risk students.

She always says, "I have voted to expel students but I much prefer giving out diplomas." Gwen Estes is giving students a foundation to break free of their problems, a reason to care. In many cases, it is something they would not have gotten if it weren't for her.

A description from one of her students aptly describes Ms. Estes' exemplary contributions to her students. "Even though she is a teacher, she is your friend. We can have good days or bad days, but she always tells us we can be what we want to be. Miss E is one of a kind."

Gwen Estes epitomizes the essence of the Ghandi, King, Ikeda award. She is bringing peace, unity, and hope to the classroom each day.

HONORING JOHN COLEMAN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the contributions of Commissioner John Coleman of Hollywood, Florida. Mr. Coleman, a native of Rhode Island, retired to South Florida in 1992 and spent the rest of his life as a passionate advocate for the city of Hollywood and its beaches.

In 1998, Mr. Coleman was elected to the Hollywood City Commission. During his term, he championed environmental issues and fought to protect Hollywood Beach from overdevelopment. Area residents fondly recall his ebullient spirit and passionate, fiery rhetoric. After serving his term, Mr. Coleman continued as an activist and civic leader. He campaigned at the local, state and national levels for candidates he supported. As President of the Broward Council of Democratic Club Presidents, President of the Hollywood Democratic Club, and member of the Broward Democratic Executive Committee, Mr. Coleman lent his voice to a multitude of issues for the betterment of life for all in South Florida.

Mr. Coleman is survived by six sons, a daughter, his long-time companion, and nine grandchildren. He will be sorely missed for his exuberance and his dedication to civic activism.

AMBER ALERT HAS HAPPY ENDING—WOMAN NOTICES STOLEN CAR AND CALLS 911

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to your attention the story of an AMBER Alert in action and working to save the lives of New Mexico's children.

The AMBER Alerts are currently carried by New Mexico's broadcast media via the same Emergency Alert System used in severe weather and national emergencies. The tones so familiar to citizens during storms are now helping to save children's lives. On Wednesday, November 19, Juan David Olive, 4, lay sleeping in the back of his father's Geo Metro in the parking lot of a restaurant on Isleta Bou-

levard in Albuquerque. When the boy's father returned to the parking lot, his car was missing, and he knew his son was still inside. Authorities issued an AMBER Alert for the boy with a description of the car. Nadine Marquis was in the parking lot of a local electronics store when she saw what appeared to be the stolen car. Upon closer investigation, she heard crying inside and called the police. When authorities arrived, they found the boy and returned him safely to his parents.

Mr. Speaker, Albuquerque began implementing the AMBER Alert system in 2001 when the New Mexico Broadcasters Association signed an agreement with the police department. I encourage their effort. Now, AMBER Alert is statewide in New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and all the residents of New Mexico in honoring and thanking Nadine Marquis. AMBER Alerts have proven effective in finding missing children, but could not succeed without the help of sharp-eyed people like Nadine. I commend her for her efforts, and I am sure there will be many others like her who will help save the lives of children in New Mexico and nationwide.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BEN RIZZI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise before you to recognize a remarkable citizen from my district. Ben Rizzi recently retired after 30 years of service to the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Colorado. Ben dedicated his professional life to the conservation of Colorado's natural resources and I am proud to call his contributions to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation.

Ben was born in Walsenburg, Colorado. Following high school, he attended Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Throughout college, Ben worked for the Forest Service over each summer vacation. It was during this time that Ben's love for the outdoors began to influence his career path. After receiving his degree, Ben took a job on a cattle ranch near La Veta. After working on the ranch for a year, Ben took a position with the Soil Conservation Service, which was eventually renamed the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Throughout his tenure with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ben achieved great success as a District Conservationist. Ben worked tirelessly for the betterment of every landowner and parcel of land he encountered. Ben is truly an outstanding steward of the land and the benefits of his tireless devotion and hard work will be felt for generations to come. Although Ben is retiring, his legacy will live on through his two sons, both of whom have followed in their father's footsteps and chosen careers in the field of natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and pay tribute to Ben Rizzi. Ben spent nearly three decades working for the betterment of Colorado's farming and ranching communities. Ben will be missed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. However, he will now have more time to spend with his family and his